

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 04387 210740Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-02 /029 W
-----011805 210956Z /21

R 210720Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4338
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 4387

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, TW
SUBJECT: "NEW GENERATION" MAGAZINE

REF: STATE 167718 (NOTAL)

1. FIRST EDITION OF "NEW GENERATION" MONTHLY WAS ON THE STANDS AT THE BEGINNING OF JULY. ITS EDITOR, CHANG CHUN-HUNG (FORMER EDITOR OF DEFUNCT "TAIWAN POLITICAL REVIEW"), HAD TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER OVER A MONTH AGO (SEE CHANG/DE WILDE MEMCON OF JUNE 3) THAT HE WAS BRINGING OUT A NEW MAGAZINE AND THAT HE ANTICIPATED NO PROBLEM IN GETTING REQUIRED INTERIOR MINISTRY LICENSE. WE UNDERSTAND THAT FIRST PRINTING OF 4,500 WAS SOLD OUT DESPITE THE FACT THAT NO NEWSPAPERS WOULD CARRY ADVERTISEMENTS FOR THE NEW MAGAZINE, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE OF ITS EDITOR'S PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE WITH "TAIWAN POLITICAL REVIEW." A SECOND PRINTING OF THE FIRST EDITION BROUGHT TOTAL COPIES PRINTED AND SOLD TO 1,000--A RELATIVELY HIGH CIRCULATION FOR MAGAZINES HERE AND PARTICULARLY

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 04387 210740Z

REMARKABLE GIVEN THE ABSENCE OF ADVERTISING.

2. FIRST EDITION (COPY BEING POUCHED TO EA/ROC) WAS A FAIRLY INNOCUOUS COLLECTION OF ARTICLES ON POLITICAL SUBJECTS WITH ONLY ONE OR TWO OF MORE THAN ROUTINE INTEREST (TRANSLATIONS OF THESE ARE BEING MADE AND WILL BE FORWARDED). THE NEXT ISSUE OF "NEW GENERATION" MAY WELL BE MORE

LIVELY AND CRITICAL: EDITOR CHANG TOLD AN EMBASSY OFFICER THAT MOVEMENT IN THIS DIRECTION WAS NECESSARY TO ASSURE GREATER CIRCULATION AND IMPACT. PUBLISHER CH'EN LI-YANG, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS MORE CAUTIOUS (AND MORE NAIVE) THAN EDITOR CHANG. HE TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER ON A SEPARATE OCCASION THAT THE "NEW GENERATION" COULD NOT AFFORD TO BE TOO CRITICAL AND SPECIFICALLY CONTRASTED HIS ATTITUDE ON THIS SUBJECT WITH THE EXPERIENCE OF THE "TAIWAN POLITICAL REVIEW," WHICH HE THOUGH HAD BEEN TOO CRITICAL. (ALTHOUGH THERE SEEMS TO BE SOME DIFFERENCE OF CONCEPT BETWEEN CHANG AND CH'EN, CH'EN-- A MAINLANDER EDUCATION IN JAPAN WITH A BACKGROUND IN JOURNALISM AND TRADE--IS OPENLY ADMIRING OF CHANG, WHOM HE SEES AS THE RISING OPPOSITIONIST, AND WOULD PROBABLY BE UNABLE TO DISSUADE CHANG IF THE LATTER REALLY WANTS TO MOVE THE MAGAZINE TO A MORE CRITICAL ANTI-GOVERNMENT STANCE.)

3. BOTH THE EDITOR AND THE PUBLISHER CONCEIVE OF "NEW GENERATION" AS MEANS FOR MOVING TAIWAN'S GOVERNMENT IN A MORE OPEN, LIBERAL DIRECTION. BOTH ARE CONVINCED THAT THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF U.S. NORMALIZATION POLICY WILL PROVIDE TAIWAN WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO STAND ON ITS OWN AND TO DEVELOP ITS OWN IDENTITY AND LONG-TERM GOALS. (IN THIS REGARD, THE MAGAZINE RECENTLY SPONSORED A FORUM ON U.S. CHINA POLICY, THE MINUTES OF WHICH CHANG INTENDS TO PUBLISH IN THE NEXT EDITION OF THE MAGAZINE. ALTHOUGH CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TAIPEI 04387 210740Z

THERE WAS NO LOCAL REPORTING OF THIS FORUM, CHANG TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER THAT DISCUSSION CENTERED AROUND WHAT KIND OF MODEL--IF ANY--THE U.S. HAD DECIDED TO ADOPT TO DEAL WITH TAIWAN IN A POST-DIPLOMATIC PERIOD. THE EFFECT OF NORMALIZATION ON TAIWAN WAS REPORTEDLY NOT DISCUSSED.)

4. CHANG HIMSELF INTENDS TO USE THE MAGAZINE AS A RALLYING POINT FOR OPPOSITIONIST POLITICIANS. HE TOLD EMBASSY OFFICER THAT HE HIMSELF MIGHT RUN FOR OFFICE IN THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS (HE HAS NOT YET DECIDED WHICH ELECTION, IF ANY, TO CONTEST) AND THAT HE AND OTHER OPPOSITIONISTS (HE MENTIONED TAIWAN PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLYMAN HSU HSIN-LIANG, TAINAN CITY COUNCILMAN SU NAN-CHANG, AND LEGISLATIVE YUAN MEMBER K'ANG NING-HSIANG) MIGHT FORM AN OPPOSITION ORGANIZATION OR EVEN A FULL-FLEDGED PARTY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE NOVEMBER ELECTIONS. (COMMENT: ATTEMPTS TO ORGANIZE OPPOSITIONISTS IN THE PAST HAVE NEVER GOTTEN OFF THE GROUND AND THERE IS NO CURRENT REASON TO SUSPECT THAT ANOTHER SUCH ATTEMPT MADE BEFORE NOVEMBER WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL.)

5. WE BELIEVE IT IS STILL TOO EARLY TO TELL WHAT THE

APPEARANCE OF "NEW GENERATION" MEANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
IN TAIWAN. ALTHOUGH THE MAGAZINE REPORTEDLY EXPERIENCED
NO DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING A LICENSE TO PUBLISH, EVEN
WITH CHANG AS EDITOR, WE BELIEVE THE GROG WOULD HAVE
FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO ARBITRARILY DENY PERMISSION TO PUBLISH.
CERTAINLY THE AUTHORITIES WILL WATCH CLOSELY TO SEE WHAT
COURSE THE MAGAZINE TAKES. SHOULD IT BE SUSPENDED AT
SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE, THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CLOSURE
WILL TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT THE DEGREE TO WHICH THE
GROC IS LIBERALIZING. GIVEN INCREASED SENSITIVITY TO
APPEARANCE OF RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, WE WOULD EXPECT
THAT THE NEW MAGAZINE WOULD HAVE TO STEP VERY FAR OUT OF
LINE TO PROMPT THE GROG TO CLOSE IT BEFORE THE NOVEMBER
ELECTIONS.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 TAIPEI 04387 210740Z

UNGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MAGAZINES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977TAIPEI04387
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770259-0334
Format: TEL
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770731/aaaabbad.tel
Line Count: 137
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ebc9ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 167718
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1785217
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: \"NEW GENERATION\"MAGAZINE
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, SOPN, TW
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ebc9ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009